



Zero Waste Arlington June 2021 Meeting Minutes

Date: June 24, 2021

Time: 6:00 PM

Location: *Online Zoom Meeting*

Attendees:

Committee Members - Charlotte Milan, Larry Slotnick, Priya Sankalia, Meghan Correa, Jim Ballin, Paul Goldberg, Emily Dertz.

Residents - Jeff Timperi, Margie Bell, Julie Benyo, M. Adler, Jeremy Marin

Minutes

Opened with the *Land Acknowledgement* statement

"We acknowledge that the Town of Arlington is located on the ancestral lands of the Massachusetts Tribe, the tribe of Indigenous peoples from whom the Colony, Province, and Commonwealth have taken their names. We pay our respects to the ancestral bloodline of the Massachusetts Tribe and their descendants who still inhabit historic Massachusetts territories today."

1. The committee reviewed and approved May 2021 ZWA meeting minutes
2. Priya read the land acknowledgement statement
3. Plastics subcommittee meeting update
 - a. How can we come up with business guidelines - low waste badges - focused on restaurants but could include other businesses was discussed - Margie's update
 - b. Larry recommends that we should put together something with a date to share with Chamber of Commerce - could serve as an incentive to get them to participate
 - c. Charlotte, Emily, and Meghan are working on a grant to come up with a directory
 - d. Paul talked about how we could try to work on single use plastics - educating people and/or e.g. plastic bottle bans. Larry recommended Paul to reach out to legislatures about has there been any headway in any town with banning plastics bottles in the large stores. 25 communities have banned it - the town has to commit to not using plastic bottles

- e. Bottle filling stations - something to discuss - outdoor options - Larry recommended taking it offline
 - f. Jeremy suggestion - Is it possible to require stores that sell bottled water to include a sign where the water is saying something like "Did you know the MWRA water from the tap in Arlington is considered some of the best and safest in the world?"
 - g. Meghan shared that there was a good number of people at the meeting with good energy.
4. Budget
- a. Need to spend the budget for this FY - Larry will contact designer
 - b. Larry will reach out to Jim Fenny about getting a water dispenser - ask about vendor - <https://quenchbuggy.com/quench-cart/>
 - c. Balance of the budget will be spent on Sarah Muscarelli for some design work - the committee voted on this and it was unanimously approved. Design and production of promotional materials for NPP
 - d. Ideally \$1000 to watering station and balance to Sarah - if no watering station then all to Sarah.
5. Earth to Arlington update
- a. Viewers on the webinar cannot see the questions and only the answers so having it one place would be good.
 - b. Everyone thought it went really well
 - c. There should be just one place to put the questions
 - d. We should turn the chat option off so all questions can be in one place
 - e. We should start the planning earlier for the next one
 - f. We should also consider another time slot - maybe in the evening after work - Emily suggested 6:30
6. Charlotte's update
- a. Many reuse activities at the recycling center which we could be promoting
 - b. We could plan a fix-it clinic
 - c. Running camps this summer
 - d. Another class with Community Ed - is there a way we can establish a goal - even as a committee
 - e. Food scrap diversion in apartment buildings
 - f. Hiring a compliance person
7. Fix-it Clinics
- a. Larry talked about finding people in town passionate about Reuse - that are not on our committee
 - b. Charlotte said we have several experienced coaches
 - c.
8. Meeting Location and Times and Co-Chairs
- a. Jim suggested that we could have people calling in - if we wanted to have a hybrid meeting.
 - b. Change the starting time to potentially 7:00 - 8:30 - several people seemed to like this suggestion
 - c. Co-chairs

- d. Larry talked about the committee structure and how we have now starting creating sub-committees which is a good model - especially the plastics sub-committee. Needs a structure of its own with people bringing the skills needed to make it successful.
- e. Have a more formal process of keeping notes etc. - reporting back to the committee etc.
- f. Emily nominated Priya and Larry as co-chairs and they were unanimously voted in as co-chairs.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm